

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 8

Serial No.: 09/552,117

Filing Date: April 19, 2002

Attorney Docket No. 125.037US01

Title: ACCESSING MAIN ATX OUTPUTS WITHOUT MONITORING ALL OUTPUTS

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application.

Telephonic Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner and his Supervisor for the telephonic interview of October 8, 2003. The Applicant explained the difference between the subject matter claimed in the present application and the National LM2637 art reference. In particular, how delaying connection of the power supply controlled voltage power outputs for a selected delay time after the first primary power output voltage reaches the reference threshold level of the present application is different than the soft start procedure set out in the National LM2637 reference. The Examiner suggested filing a response incorporating the difference we discussed during the telephonic interview. Applicant has included the discussion in the present response.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(a)

Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being unpatentable over National LM2637.

As discussed during the telephonic interview, each of the independent Claims 1, 6, 11, 16 and 21 of the present application include an element similar to the element in Claim 1, "means for delaying connection of the first primary and secondary primary power voltages to the controlled voltage power outputs for a selected delay time after the first primary power voltage reaches the reference threshold level." The National reference does not teach "means for delaying connection of the first primary and secondary primary power voltages to the controlled voltage power outputs for a selected delay time after the first primary power voltage reaches the reference threshold level," as is disclosed and claimed in the present application. The National reference relates to a method of starting a soft start when three conditions are met (including a Vcc pin exceeding a specific voltage). The start cycle then ends after a specific amount of clock cycles. Please see page 8, in the Start Up, section of the Theory of Operation of the National reference.

This is not what is disclosed and claimed in the present application. In particular, the present application discloses a method of monitoring a primary voltage from a power supply.

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Once the power supply voltage exceeds a select threshold level, delaying the connection of the primary and secondary voltages to respective outputs for a select period of time. Referring to the graph of Figure 5, and the description on page 8, lines 6-8, an example of how one embodiment of the present application works is described. As illustrated and described;

At time T1, the 12V ATX output exceeds the 12V undervoltage threshold of circuit 22, and the internal 50ms (typical) timer 25 (Figure 2) is initiated. At T2 the tie-out initiates a soft-start, and the memory output is ramped up, reaching regulation limits at T3.

As described and illustrated, the soft start (which ramps up the outputs) is not initiated until after the delay has taken place (i.e. the power outputs are not connected to the primary and secondary power voltage until after the delay). This is not what is taught in the National reference. Since the National reference does not teach every claim of each of the independent claims in the present application, the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the independent claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(a). Moreover, since all the respective dependant claims further define there respective patentably distinct independent claims, further responses to their rejections have not been put forth at this time. However, Applicant retains the right to address said rejections if a further response is required.

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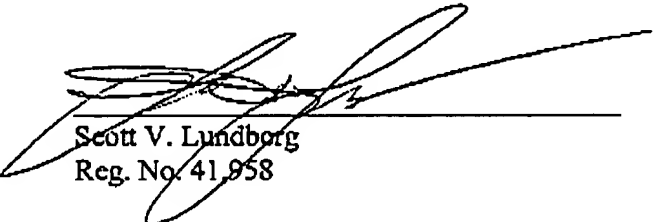
Title: ACCESSING MAIN ATX OUTPUTS WITHOUT MONITORING ALL OUTPUTS

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-25 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 332-4720.

If necessary, please charge and additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502432.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11-3-03

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